

The Norman Conquest

57

and about Leccc, Meanwhile,
Guiscard was
engaged in the conquest of Calabria.
In the
Bummer of 105.7 Humfrey died and
was buried
by his two elder brothers in the Church
of Santa
Trinita in Venosa, On his deathbed, he
made
Guiscard the guardian of his infant
sons Abelard
and Herman, and was given a promise
that their
rights should be respected. But
Guiscard, elected
Count by the Norman magnates,
regarded lightly
his oath; it was not yet time for the
principle of
hereditary

There now arrived the youngest of
the sons of
Timered, the Benjamin of the
house
of Hautevule; of a genius somewhat
unlike that of
Robert, leas far-reaching, of a more
solid and per-
haps constructive kind; with loss of the
knight-
errant in him and more of the
organiser, yet in his
own way and on ti smaller field he
proved himself
little. less great than (luiscard. lie is
described
by Maltttwra an being of extreme
beauty, of lofty
Htature, of graceful shape, eloquent in
speech and
cool in counsel, fttr-«ee.ing in laying his
plans,
tillable and open-hearted, strong of
arm and a
gnllimt fighter. Roger won his spurs first
by

accompanying Robert into Calabria,
where they
deprived the Greeks of almost all but
Reggie
(1057), But was followed by a
quarrel; for a
time Roger lived like a bandit in his
castle of
Melfi, warring both on his brother and
his neighbours, and on one occasion
stooping so
low *m* to concert with his squire the
theft of some